

Workforce System Legislative Agenda Planning

PRESENTER NAME: Nova Gattman

BOARD MEETING DATE: 7/16/21

DISCUSSION TIME ALLOTTED: 4 hours

<p>ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed.</p>	<p>THE ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY IS:</p> <p>The Board will continue the conversation on potential items for the workforce system's 2022 Legislative Agenda. Based on the June 2021 Board meetings, six topics of interest will be covered in the July 16 Board meeting (more details on each item below).</p> <p>The concepts on the agenda are in various forms of completion: Some are nearly complete in terms of readiness for action from the Board; others are meant to be the first step in a series of conversations, and may require some work from Board members and stakeholders in between the July and August meetings. Each of the following tabs provides details on each of the items that will be discussed in this meeting; this document is meant to be an overview of the meeting as a whole.</p>
<p>TAP STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Which TAP strategic priority or priorities does this recommendation support? Can you tie to specific goals and objectives in TAP? Briefly describe these connections. If the connection is unclear, describe why this is of consequence to the Workforce Board and/or workforce system.</p>	<p>THIS IS IMPORTANT TO THE WORKFORCE SYSTEM BECAUSE:</p> <p>The opportunity is for the Workforce Board to coalesce around key levers to advocate for strategies and tactics to improve economic outcomes for Washington's workers and businesses. Given the challenges facing our business and workers in the last year, now is a prime opportunity to move towards action and direction for our system's role in the 2022 Legislative Session and beyond—including in the federal policy arena.</p>
<p>BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?</p>	<p>A Workforce Board legislative advocacy agenda will allow business, labor, and government to be united in pursuing support from the Legislature and Congress to move key issues forward that will best position the workforce system to play a key role in the state's economic recovery. A system agenda provides a sharper and stronger focus on a small set of issues critical to the workforce system, while not prohibiting advocacy for items that are not listed.</p> <p>Developing a small, targeted list of legislative priorities allows Board members and stakeholders to have a much deeper knowledge of key items on the list, allowing for increased participation and advocacy for the workforce system goals before policymakers.</p> <p>This meeting's discussion will cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Bridge Modernization: Staff will present a funding proposal for the Board's consideration to add a digital portfolio option to Career Bridge, add features to allow integration with a secondary student's High School and Beyond Plan, modernize the site (include for mobile use), and add staff FTE to support the work. • IT Pathways / Digital Equity: The Board will be provided a list of potential options to address equity and access challenges in the IT sector, with time for discussion to hone the next steps to prepare for the August meeting. • Next Generation Workforce System: Following feedback in the June meetings, Board staff will provide an overview of several concepts meant to move the system forward in terms of integrated service delivery, enhanced investment in incumbent worker training, and increased business engagement at all levels of the workforce system.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future of Work: After discussions in the June Board meetings, staff have further refined a concept paper that would continue the Board's focus on the Future of Work as a critical topic in the system. The proposal would continue the work, but as a specifically funded role of the Board (with funding available for staff, research and analysis), as well as a potential expansion of the Health Workforce Sentinel Network concept to other industries in the state to help better inform the Board and policymakers about potential changes in the workplace and worker roles. • Long-Term Care Workforce: The Board will be provided with a presentation on the current and projected landscape for the long-term care workforce, with time for discussion and direction on potential next steps for a proposal for consideration in the August Board meeting. • Addressing the Public System Benefits Cliff: Continuing the Board's interest in engaging in this topic, Board system partners will be providing a broad overview of the public system benefits cliff, as well a focus in two areas with these "cliffs" – services for individuals with disabilities, and child care access. The Board will have the opportunity to provide additional direction on further opportunities for engagement to help guide the next steps between the July and August meetings. <p>Board members will have discussion time built into each of the above items, as well as time for a general discussion near the end of the meeting.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?</p>	<p>THE RECOMMENDATION AND/OR REQUESTED ACTION IS:</p> <p>Information and discussion only. Staff will provide key questions at each level of the discussion for the Board to consider to help refine policy ideas, and narrow areas of focus, where needed.</p> <p>Board members and staff are encouraged to actively participate in honing the topics and next steps, and where appropriate, participate in the development of concepts and proposals for the August Board meeting.</p>